

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

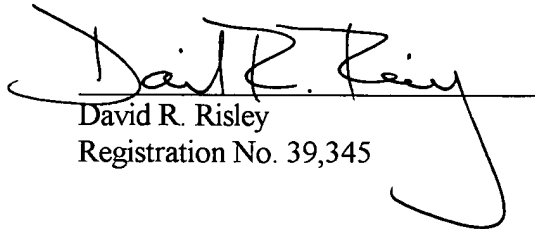
In the Specification

On page 1, line 3, please delete the entire paragraph entitled "**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**".

CONCLUSION

Applicant does not wish to claim priority to and the benefit of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/049,627, filed March 27, 1998, for the present application. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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